

Hawaii MARINE

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VOLUME 36, NUMBER 1

WWW.MCBH.USMC.MIL

JANUARY 6, 2006



Cpl. Rich Mattingly

2005 Year in Review

Compiled by Public Affairs Staff

Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay

Happy New Year to all of our readers, and welcome to Hawaii Marine's Year in Review.

As we have done for years, the first issue of the New Year takes you on a journey back



Lance Cpl. Stephen M. Kweitniak

Brig Gen. Steven Hummer (left) and Col. Michael O'Neal exchange the base colors during a change of command ceremony Sept. 9, 2005, as Sgt. Maj. Anthony Franks looks on. The exchange of the colors is a standard procedure that represents the transfer of command.

through 2005 to give you a synopsis of the events that have had an impact on our Marines, Sailors, families, Department of Defense civilians, and others aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Iraq, Afghanistan, Japan and other bases throughout the globe.

Aboard Kaneohe Bay, a city in and of itself, units and tenants continued to work together in order to facilitate training, keep the base operational as well as safe and secure.

On base, Headquarters Battalion deployed Marines and Sailors forward in April in support of the Global War on Terrorism. In May, acting Base Commander Col. Michael C. O'Neal accepted the Employer of the Decade award on behalf of the Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay commanding general.

O'Neal officially took command of the base from Brig. Gen. George J. Trautman III, during an assumption of command ceremony here in June. Brig. Gen Trautman left K-Bay

to assume duties as the commanding general of 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Okinawa, Japan.

In June, K-Bay said Aloha to Col. Richard R. Roten, former deputy commander MCB Hawaii, who retired after 30 years of service to the Corps.

At U.S. Marine Forces, Pacific, Lt. Gen. John F. Goodman relieved Lt. Gen. Wallace C. Gregson Jr. as commanding general on Aug. 3, 2005. From Camp H.M. Smith, Hawaii, Lt. Gen. Goodman commands more than 74,000 active duty Marines and Sailors. His area of responsibility spans the globe from the West Coast of the United States through the Pacific to Southwest Asia, to include Marine forces in Iraq and Afghanistan.

By September, MCB Hawaii welcomed a new base commander during a change of command ceremony at Dewey Square when O'Neal



Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson

The new base chapel was dedicated June 3, 2005, during a morning ceremony. The chapel's windows were designed by artists Nidia and Michael Mezalick of Mezalick Design Studios in Philadelphia.

“passed the flag” to now Brig. Gen. Steven A. Hummer who had come to Hawaii from Fort Bragg, N.C., where he served as chief of staff for Joint Special Operations Command.

Another event that transpired on base during 2005 was the planning of the consolidation of

See REVIEW, A-3

2/3 returns from Afghanistan

Lance Cpl. Edward C. deBree

Combat Correspondent

“We want Daddy! We want Daddy,” shouted children at the Honolulu International Airport, Dec. 22, as they awaited the return of Marines and Sailors assigned to 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment to disembark the aircraft that had just arrived.

Sixty-four Marines and Sailors assigned to 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, returned to Hawaii after being deployed to Afghanistan where they supported Operation Enduring Freedom.

Friends and family members decorated the baggage-claim area with signs of welcome for Marines and Sailors who had been gone from Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, for more than seven months. To the delight of Marines, Sailors, families and friends, they were arriving just in time for the holidays. “It's a blessing,” said Sgt.

Jeremy Roth, motor transportation mechanic, Headquarters and Support Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment. “I missed everything very much while I was over there, but especially my wife. We were a long way from home over there with little contact back home. But it was a great experience.”

“It's the best Christmas gift ever,” said April Roth, wife of Sgt. Jeremy Roth.

The 26-year-old Maywood, Neb. native said that his experience in Afghanistan was one that he would never forget because of all the experiences he had encountered.

“I learned a lot while I was over there,” admitted Roth. “We ended up working on these Humvees that the Army uses, which are completely different from ours, so we had to learn everything about them in a short amount of time in order to work on them. But it was a great experience.”

Although the Marines who make up the advance party have arrived safely at home, some Marines said that they should still be with the remaining Marines still in Afghanistan.

“It's definitely a double-edged sword,” said Gunnery Sgt. Robert DuTremble, battalion motor transportation chief, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment. “I mean, I'm finally home to see my family, but at the same time, I'm away from my Marines who are still over there.”

DuTremble, a 35-year-old Danbury, Conn. native said he was lost for words to describe how it feels to be back in Hawaii with family and friends.

“Words cannot express how it feels to finally be home,” said DuTremble. “This was just another deployment for me. This one was my fifth combat tour, and it was a lot better than when I was in Iraq. But I'm ready to go home and be able to sleep in my own bed.”



Lance Cpl. Edward C. deBree

Nathan Rauda, 2, is held by his father, Sgt. Oscar Rauda, rifleman, 3rd Platoon squad leader, Fox Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, after returning home from from Afghanistan, Dec. 22, 2005, at the Honolulu International Airport. The 2/3 Marines and Sailors are part of an advanced party that was sent home ahead of the main body.

NEWS BRIEFS

Construction Traffic on Middaugh Street through Friday

Traffic on Middaugh Street will be interrupted during normal working hours, from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., to allow large trucks to enter and exit the Family Housing construction site. For safety, flag-men will be situated in the area to direct traffic. For information, call Andy Gasper, Family Housing tenant relations specialist, at 257-1257 ext 287.

Base Pool Closed for Improvements

The Kaneohe Base Pool will be closed for improvements beginning Monday and will reopen in March. The Officers' Club, Camp Smith and Manana Housing pools are all still open during regular business hours. For more information, call 254-7655.

Survey Participation Requested

The Department of Defense Inspector General is conducting a Trafficking in Persons survey between now and March 31. They are requesting maximum participation from all active duty service members, civilian Marines and contractors. We encourage all to log on and take the first part of the survey, which contains 22 questions that should take only a few minutes to complete. To access the survey, log on to www.dodig.mil/tip%20survey/survey.htm. A password is not required.

Gas Lane Closures

A gas station canopy project has been underway since Nov. 7 and is slated to take six to seven months to complete, after construction begins. The canopy will be built in phases, which means that half of the gasoline pumps will be unavailable for consumer use at any given time. For questions concerning this project, call George Kelsey, MCCA, 254-7689 or Ken Takeya, MCCA, 254-7539.

Volunteers Needed for Survey

Survey takers are needed for the 2006 Sea Services Women's Leadership Symposium, to be held March 21, aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii. Survey takers can go to www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=725521377979 or <http://tinyurl.com/araat> to take the survey. Volunteer opportunities exist. For more information, contact Lt. Cmdr. Desarae Janszen at 541-2125, or by e-mail at djanszen@d14.uscg.mil; or Master Sgt. Milton White, MCB Hawaii equal opportunity advisor, at 257-7720, or milton.d.white@usmc.mil.

HI 5¢ Redemption Site

HI 5¢ redemption services are available from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m every Friday in the parking lot across from the PX Annex. Separate glass, cans and plastic and remove lids before redeeming recyclables. For more information, call Jim Sibert, Base Recycling at 257-4300.

Hawaii Marine Accepts Letters

The Hawaii Marine welcomes comments for the "Letters to the Editor" section. Letters should be clear and concise. The Hawaii Marine staff reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and length. Comments must be signed with a full name and a telephone number must be provided.

E-Mail: editor@hawaiimarine.com, with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.

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Important Phone Numbers

On-Base Emergencies	911
Military Police	257-7114
Child Protective Service	832-5300
Fraud, Waste, Abuse & EEO	257-8852
Business Management Hotline	257-3188
Pothole & Streetlight Repair	257-2380
Base Information	449-7110

HAWAII MARINE

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The Hawaii Marine is an unofficial newspaper published every Friday by MidWeek Printing, Inc., 45-525 Luluku Road, Kaneohe, HI 96744, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Marine Corps, under exclusive contract to the U.S. Marine Corps. This civilian enterprise is an authorized publication for members of the military services.

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Editorial content or public service announcements (i.e., all content other than paid advertisements) is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii. Opinions expressed are not to be considered an official expression of the DoD or the U.S. Marine Corps.

Submit items for the Hawaii Marine to managing editor no later than noon on the Friday prior to publication, using the following addresses:

HAWAII MARINE, BOX 63062, BUILDING 216,
MCB HAWAII, KANEOHE BAY, HAWAII 96863
E-MAIL: EDITOR@HAWAIIIMARINE.COM
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Tax statements can be found on myPay, mailbox

Defense Finance And Accounting Service

Department of Defense

ARLINGTON, Va. — Military service members, military retirees and annuitants, and federal civilian employees paid by the Defense Finance and Accounting Service can expect to receive their 2005 tax statements beginning this month.

DFAS customers with "myPay" access will be able to retrieve their tax statements electronically, up to three weeks sooner than those relying on regular mail delivery. MyPay is DFAS' secure Web-based pay information system. One of the many benefits of myPay is the ability to receive tax state-

ments electronically, saving time and avoiding risks associated with identity theft. MyPay has a series of security measures with layers of defense against identity theft. The secure technology provided to myPay customers meets or exceeds security requirements in private industry worldwide.

According to DFAS officials, myPay is becoming the standard method of pay and tax statement delivery for those individuals paid by DFAS.

"Not only do our customers get their statements quicker, but more securely," said Pat Shine, director of DFAS' Military and Civilian Pay Services. "Our customers are discovering that myPay's encryption tech-

nology is providing the security they demand to protect their sensitive pay and personal information."

Shine added that current myPay account holders who have forgotten their personal identification number, as well as new users can request a new PIN on the myPay Web site: <https://mypay.dfas.mil>. MyPay users who have an official preregistered e-mail address provided by affiliated services such as Army Knowledge Online or Air Force White Pages, or who have entered a secure e-mail address in the myPay E-mail Settings page can receive their new PIN via e-mail. All others will receive their new PIN via mail in approximately 10 working days from the date of request.

Projected dates for tax statement distribution

Form/Document	Available on myPay	Mailed via U.S. Postal Service
Retiree Annual Statement	Dec. 9, 2005	Dec. 17–31, 2005
Retiree 1099R	Dec. 16, 2005	Dec. 17–31, 2005
Annuitant Account Statement	Dec. 16, 2005	Dec. 27–31, 2005
Annuitant 1099R	Dec. 16, 2005	Dec. 17–31, 2005
VSI/SSB W-2	See Note 2	Jan. 4–5
Active Duty Air Force, Army, Navy W-2	Jan. 21	Jan. 24–27
Reserve Air Force, Army, Navy W-2	Dec. 31, 2005	Jan. 4–7
Marine Corps Active Duty and Reserve W-2	Jan. 10	Jan. 12–16
Civilian Employees W-2	Jan. 9	Jan. 10–21
Savings Deposit Program 1099INT	See Note 2	Jan. 27
Vondor Pay 1099	See Note 2	Jan. 28–31

Notes:

1. Indicates anticipated dates statements/tax forms will be placed in the U.S. Postal System. Actual delivery may vary by location and holiday mail volume.
2. This form or statement is not available on myPay.

Crossing flightline can be dangerous

Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson

Press Chief

"This is a very serious safety hazard," said Lt. Col. Scott Clark, airfield safety officer, Marine Corps Air Facility. "Not only are runway incursions hazardous to air crews and the air facility, they are a hazard to the base as a whole."

Runway incursions occur when either an unauthorized vehicle or pedestrian enter onto the airfield. This hasn't been a major issue aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, until just recently, said Clark.

"We usually only get one or two runway incursions per year," said the Ann Arbor, Mich. native. "But in the past four months alone, we have had 12 incursions."

It is extremely dangerous for unauthorized personnel or vehicles to be on the flight line when the airfield is open, because that creates a huge risk for an accident or a collision with an airplane during takeoff, landing or taxiing.

There is a gate guard posted at the Mokapu Road runway crossing when the airfield is open. According to Base Regulation P5500.15B, the Mokapu Road crossing por-

tion of the runway is the only exception to vehicle access into MCAF restricted areas. Vehicles must comply with road gates and cannot stop on or deviate from Mokapu Road between gates. Pedestrians and runners are prohibited on MCAF restricted areas.

The base order also states that all vehicles crossing the runway from Mokapu Road must enter through the electronic arm gate crossing system. Failure to abide by crossing

See *FLIGHT*, A-6



Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson

A car waits at the Mokapu Road gate for a P3 Orion to land before crossing the runway. Mokapu Road is the only place where vehicles are allowed to cross the flight line.



KARNES



MOLEND

HSL-37 Change of Command

Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light 37 will hold its change of command ceremony Jan. 12 aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, in Hangar 103 at 10 a.m.

Cmdr. Neil Karnes, U.S. Navy, who was assigned as the squadron's executive officer, will move up to relieve Cmdr. Patrick Molenda, U.S. Navy, as commanding officer. Molenda is making a permanent change of station move to European Command, Stuttgart, Germany.

Weekend weather outlook

Today



Day — partly cloudy with scattered rain showers, breezy, 30 percent chance of rain

Night — partly cloudy with scattered rain showers, east winds 15 to 20 mph, 50 percent chance of rain

High — 78
Low — 67

Saturday



Day — partly cloudy with isolated rain showers, east winds 15 to 20 mph, 40 percent chance of rain

Night — partly cloudy with scattered rain showers, east winds 10 to 15 mph, 50 percent chance of rain

High — 78
Low — 67

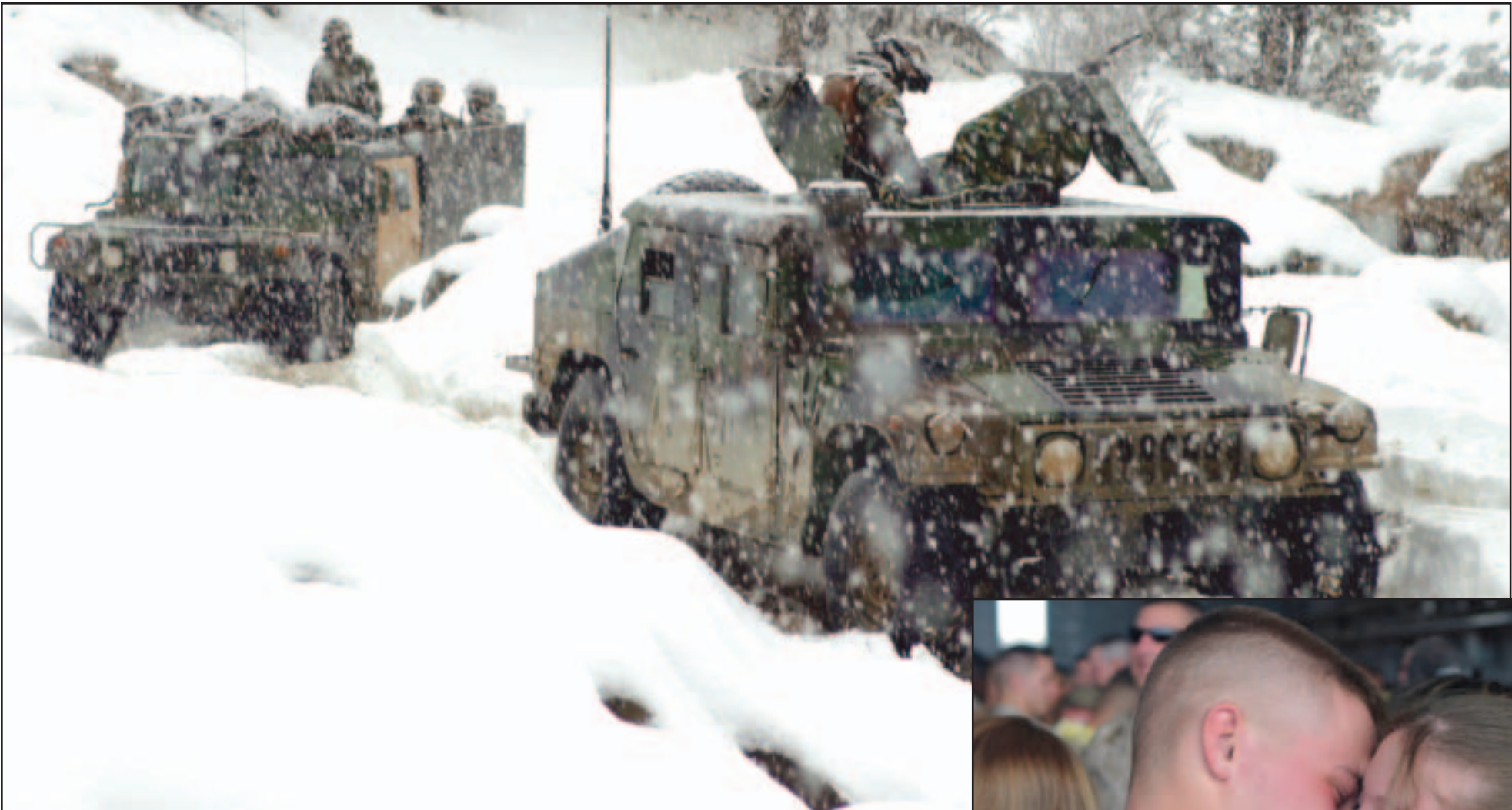
Sunday



Day — partly cloudy with isolated rain showers, east winds 10 to 15 mph, 20 percent chance of rain

Night — partly cloudy with isolated showers, east winds 10 to 15 mph, 30 percent chance of rain

High — 78
Low — 67



Above — U.S. Marines conduct a mounted patrol in the cold and snowy weather of the Khowst-Gardez Pass in Afghanistan. Marines of the 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marines, conducted security and stabilization operations in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The 3/3 Marines returned to K-Bay from Afghanistan mid-2005.



Right — Pfc. Michael V. Moskal, machinegunner, Alpha Company, 1/3, kisses his wife after returning from deployment April 26, 2005.

REVIEW, From A-1

the Installation Personnel Administration Center. The transition involved assimilating all Personnel Administration Centers on base. This change was completed as planned and the doors of IPAC were officially open in February.

One of the main focuses for the Base Chaplain was the dedication of K-Bay's new chapel that included stained-glass windows and a bell tower. Although the dedication transpired in June, the chapel bell stood silent until Christmas Day 2005 when it tolled with Christmas carols and holiday music.

There were a number of significant achievements and noteworthy events aboard MCB Hawaii in 2005, beginning with Base Safety receiving accolades for its safety efforts, winning the 2005 Commandant of the Marine Corps Safety Award as well as the Navy 2005 Safety Excellence Award. Base Environmental also shared the spotlight when they were presented with the Secretary of the Navy's Pollution Prevention Award.

Facilities also shined when their MCB Hawaii Water Conservation Program won 2005 U.S. Department of Energy, Federal Energy Management Program award. And, the base mascot, an English bulldog named Danno, was promoted to the rank

of sergeant.

Throughout the year, service members participated in military and community off-duty projects that ranged from tutoring local school children through Adopt-A-School programs that provided direction and training and encouragement to participate in cadet programs to cleaning up and clearing areas around the island during Pride Day and other community-related events.

Also aboard K-Bay, Marines and Sailors continued training evolutions throughout the year. The base also saw a number of eager and enthusiastic troops deploy and watched as families, friends and fellow Marines and Sailors welcome others home to K-Bay.

Returning in March, after a 14-month deployment, were 24 Marines assigned to Alpha Company 3rd Radio Battalion. Later, in April, more of the battalion's members returned after serving with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) in Iraq. In May, Maj. Donald D. Welch Jr. was awarded the Bronze Star for his services as the Detachment Officer-in-Charge, 3rd Battalion, 1 Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, 1 Marine



The Environmental Compliance and Protection Department, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, recently received the Secretary of the Navy Environmental Award for Pollution Prevention. Carolyn Irvin (third from left), Pollution Prevention Program manager accepted the award on behalf of the department during a ceremony held in Washington, D.C., at the U.S. Navy Memorial and Naval Heritage Center, May 3, 2005.

Photo Courtesy of Environmental Compliance and Protection Department

Expeditionary Force. By June, 3rd Radio Battalion again sent Marines to Iraq, but welcomed more home in October.

Combat Service Support Group 3 participated in the Global War on Terrorism deploying Marines and Sailors halfway around the world to operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. A combat logistic platoon was assigned to every battalion with 3rd Marine Regiment and participated in combat missions in Afghanistan. In addition, a number of Marines were sent individually to Iraq and provided services throughout the Al Anbar province.

Back on American soil, the unit sent approximately 300 of its members to Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif. For months, the detachment provided training support for infantry battalions going through Mojave Viper training that prepared them for combat in OIF and OEF.

During Spring CSSG-3 also sent Marines to Operation Alaskan Road where the logisticians worked on a 14.5-mile road. The three-week joint evolution enabled the Marines to carry out their mission alongside their peers from other branches of the service.

Back at K-Bay, CSSG-3 was busy with training, volunteered for events with the local community and hosted the annual K-Bay Swamp Romp mud group run.

The Lava Dogs of 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines, deployed to Iraq began the year with a tribute to those from 1/3 who were lost in November 2004 and again in



Brig. Gen. George J. Trautman III congratulates Base Mascot Shamrocks O'Blarney, better known as Danno, during a colors ceremony, April 8, 2005, on the occasion of his promotion to sergeant.

See 2005, A-4



Sgt. Louis Magana echoes taps during a ceremony dedicating a new flagstaff and display of bronze plaques commemorating 73 Marines who gave their lives and 15 survivors of the attack on the battleship USS Arizona at Pearl Harbor Dec. 7, 1941. The memorial features the names of the 88 Marines stationed aboard Arizona during the attack.



Marines work with the Environmental and Protection Agency at Nuupia Ponds, April 22, 2005, to get rid of unwanted invasive plants that have made the ponds their home. Pride Day is a biannual base-wide cleanup effort all units aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, participate in.

2005, From A-3

January with the crash of the CH-53E Sea Stallion that killed 26 Marines and a Sailor. The crash was the deadliest day for U.S. service members in the Global War on Terrorism.

During their time in Iraq, 1/3 was assigned to 1st Marine Division, 3rd Marine Aircraft, I Marine Expeditionary Force.

By March, the Lava Dogs were aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Essex heading to Japan in the company of the 31st MEU (SOC). Shortly before they returned home, memorial service for those lost in the helicopter crash was conducted at Hawaii’s state capitol. Days after, 1/3 Marines were back on Oahu.

In September, 1/3 began their cold-weather training at Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center, Bridgeport, Calif., followed by battalion field exercises and training with pack mules. After finishing up in Bridgeport, the Lava Dogs moved on to Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif. The troops went from freezing cold

weather to an environment that beat its 100-plus degree temperatures down upon them during Mojave Viper training.

While conducting additional training at Fort Hunter Liggett, Jolon, Calif., the battalion learned that they would be slated to make history by providing the first Distributed Operations platoon in Afghanistan.

At the conclusion of their training, 1/3 Marines and Sailors returned to Oahu where they began sustainment training, conducting 15- and 17-mile conditioning hikes.

Currently, the Lava Dogs are beginning to send troops to Afghanistan.

2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment began their year with a joint force capabilities exercise but quickly stepped up deployment training. By June, 2/3 Marines were on their way to relieve 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marines in Afghanistan.

While deployed, the Island Warriors provided security during Afghanistan elections. At one point, 2/3 was ambushed by insurgents and lost one of their Marines in the fight. The 2/3 Marines engaged insurgents

on several other occasions. The Island Warriors lost three Marines while conducting operations during their deployment to Operation Enduring Freedom.

Stationed at Camp Blessing — the most remote and the smallest Marine Corps post in Afghanistan, the Island Warriors conducted maneuvers and utilized the “Dragon Eye,” an unmanned reconnaissance aircraft for surveillance. In addition to being stationed at a unique outpost, members of the Island Warriors confiscated thousands of pounds of enemy munitions and captured numerous suspected anti-coalition personnel.

At the beginning of the year 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marines had already been in Afghanistan for several months. America’s Battalion provided support to Afghan villages in addition to combating insurgents. Their deployment included finding enemy weapons and munitions, providing constant security for themselves and local villagers and conducting numerous civil affairs-type visits to local towns and villages, where they provided medical attention to many Afghans.

Throughout their deployment, 3/3 Marines found themselves training Afghan forces and establishing a professional friendship with them. This facilitated contact between the battalion service members and villagers.

From Laghman Province,



Sgt. Robert M. Storm

Lt. Robert L. Long, Scout Sniper Platoon commander, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, from Berkley Heights, N.J., hands Afghan girls their new school outfits. More than 600 girls were given new clothes to wear to school. For most students, this was the first new clothing received in more than a year.

Afghanistan, 3/3 claimed success in Operation Mavericks, during which suspected terrorists were rounded up. At Forward Operating Base Salerno, Marine small-unit leaders polished their skills in effectively employing and controlling rotary-wing aircraft during joint close-air support drills.

In Khowst Province, America’s Battalion made history when they became the first to utilize an unmanned aerial vehicle for surveillance during Operation Enduring Freedom.

In May, 3/3 Marines paid respects to Cpl. Richard “Ricky” Schoener and Lance Cpl. Nicholas “Nick” Kirven.

The memorial came just a month before America’s Battalion returned to Hawaii.

Adding to the list of deployers was the 1st Battalion, 12th Marines who deployed a detachment of Marines alongside 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines to Iraq. By January 2005, they were more than half way through their OIF deployment. Following their involvement in the battle for Fallujah during November 2004, they transitioned to providing security that enabled the citizens a safe return to their city. By the beginning of 2005, they prepared for one more mission and provided security for Iraqis to vote during their elections.

From there they packed their gear and convoyed to Kuwait where they prepared for their return to K-Bay. After they returned from deployment and took some time off, the Marines went back to training and were involved in a few missions that included involvement with the surrounding community. They granted a child’s wish to meet Marines as part of the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

In Okinawa, Japan, 66 Marines from the Hawaii based Battery A, 1st Battalion, 12 Marines, 3rd Marine Division, assigned at the

See YEAR, A-5



Cpl. Rich Mattingly

Lance Cpl. Carlos Carrillo, rifleman assigned to Weapons Company, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marines, checks out a “jingle” truck while his squad performs vehicle searches in coordination with the Afghan National Police in the Khowst province while on deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The brightly decorated jingle trucks, so-named by Marines for the ever-jangling chains that hang from their frames, are used throughout Afghanistan to transport goods.



Cpl. Rich Mattingly

Capt. Jared Spurlock, (right), company commander, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, leads his Marines from the front during a 15-mile hump aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Nov. 4, 2005. The battalion is currently deploying to Afghanistan.



Sgt. Robert M. Storm

Marines from Echo Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, quickly man the perimeter during an indirect fire attack against Camp Blessing in Nagalam, Afghanistan. Blessing is the most remote manned Marine Corp post in Afghanistan and constantly receives enemy fire.

YEAR, From A-4

time to 3rd Battalion, 12th Marines, conducted howitzer training at Camp Hansen.

Back aboard K-Bay, May saw the return of the Lucky Red Lions of Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 363 from their Western Pacific Unit Deployment to Marine Corps Air stations Futenma and Iwakuni, Japan. The unit was assigned to support Joint Task Force 535 and Combined Support Force 536, providing humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations in wake of typhoon damage to the Republic of the Philippines; and tsunami damage to Thailand, Indonesia and Sri Lanka.

In August, the squadron's CH-53D Sea Stallions were heavily involved in workups that would prepare them for their upcoming deployment to Iraq.

Squadron members assigned to HMM-463, Pegasus, were fully engaged in day-to-day training operations as well as providing security and safety to the community. May 12, 2005, two of the squadron's CH-53Ds were called to help combat a brush fire in Nankuli Valley. The Sea Stallions made numerous trips from ocean side back to the fire site in an effort to stop the fire from spreading as winds continued to fan

embers that kept the fire alive. The Nankuli Valley fire was not the first or the last the squadron would help to douse in 2004.

In November, approximately 40 Marines assigned to HMM-463 left for Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Ariz., where they took part in a desert training exercise — Desert Talon. This training was conducted to better prepare the pilots for the uniqueness of landing and taking off in desert terrain.

In May, approximately 100 Marines assigned to the Ugly Angels of HMM-362 departed K-Bay for a six-month deployment to Okinawa, Japan, for a Unit Program Deployment.

Continuing on with remembrances of the past year, Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light 37 had their own memorable moments of 2005 — some here on K-Bay and some overseas. Putting safety first, HSL-37 held their first Family Safety Fair in June 2005. There were activities for both adults and children. One of the favorite safety courses for the crowd was the impaired driver go-cart. Another safety challenge was wearing drunk goggles. The children's favorite was the bicycle safety course.

July saw the 30th anniversary of the Easy Riders. Their rich history at K-Bay was celebrated with a ceremony and cake-cutting during

which squadron members were reminded that before calling MCB Hawaii their home, in 1999, the Easy Riders had been home based at the Naval Air Station, Barbers Point for 24 years.

With their sights set on safety and training, HSL-37 brought members to Landing Zone Boondocker aboard K-Bay where they participated in an aircraft mishap drill to hone their response and communication skills. The drill brought the appropriate agencies together, face-to-face, where they expertly orchestrated a successful drill.

By October, Easy Riders sent Detachment Four to the Pearl Harbor-based guided-missile cruiser USS Chosin where they supported Expeditionary Strike Group One. The squadron's SH-60B helicopters provided the ESG commander with enhanced capabilities to effectively counter air, surface and subsurface threats not normally found in a traditional Amphibious Ready Group.

And finally, the Rounders of HSL-37, Detachment One, returned to K-Bay in November from their six-month deployment to the Western Pacific and Arabian Gulf where they served as part of the Nimitz Carrier Strike Group. Rounders were embarked aboard the guided-missile destroyer, home ported in Pearl Harbor, USS Chafee.

Marine Aircraft Group 24 also made news last year when the squadron welcomed home 69 of its Marines from Operation Iraqi Freedom where they were assigned with the 31st MEU (SOC). MAG-24 squadron members had trained in Kuwait prior to reaching their final destination of Al Asad, where they remained for the duration of their deployment.

MAG-24 squadron members aboard MCB Hawaii conducted a successful mishap drill on base during which they monitored response time and communication skills.

By mid-December they welcomed home 26 more of their Marines to K-Bay from Okinawa



Petty Officer 3rd Class Ryan C. McGinley

A U.S. Marine Corps CH-53D Sea Stallion helicopter from Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 363, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, drops more than 2,000 gallons of sea water on a brush-fire in Nanakuli. The Department of Defense sent eight helicopters and the Federal Fire Department sent nine fire engines to aid the Honolulu Fire Department in extinguishing the blaze, which consumed more than 3,000 acres of Leeward Oahu.

where they participated in training operations that helped hone their skills and techniques in support of the ground units that were training in the Philippines.

One of K-Bay's P3 patrol squadrons, the Skinny Dragons of VP-4 were on a six-month deployment that had squadron personnel spread from Japan to Iraq. The main site being in Bahrain from which detachments were sent throughout the Arabian Gulf, Diego Garcia, Guam and Japan. During their deployment, squadron members worked as a high-performance team that enabled combat air crews to fly more than 575 missions, which included combat flights in support of operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

The Skinny Dragons are also credited with providing much-needed assistance to the Tsunami Relief Effort in Southeast Asia. Their

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Cpl. Megan L. Stiner

Marines from Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, fire off a M101-A1 105 mm light howitzer during the firing salutes portion of the Iwo Jima Memorial Ceremony at the Pacific War Memorial, March 16, 2005.



Petty Officer 2nd Class Jennifer L. Bailey
Petty Officer 3rd Class Justin Matt (right) instructs Petty Officer 3rd Class Michele Justice (left) and Petty Officer 3rd Class Marisa Marsh on the proper firing technique of a 9 mm pistol, Aug. 4, 2005. Small-arms qualifications are held for all personnel of Patrol Squadron 47, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, in preparation for deployment.

K-BAY, From A-5

support took them to Afghanistan and the Horn of Africa.

In June, VP-4 returned to their home base at K-Bay with a fully successful six-month deployment. Later that year, in December, the Skinny Dragons provided assistance to the Abraham Lincoln Strike Group, participating in the Joint Task Force Exercise that prepared the strike group for deployment.

Aboard K-Bay, VP-9 welcomed Cmdr. Perry D. Yaw as their squadron’s new commanding officer. Yaw transferred from Patrol and Reconnaissance Force, Pacific where he was assigned chief of staff for training and reported as executive officer for VP-9 in May. Former skipper, Cmdr. Rodney M. Urbano moved on to Patrol Reconnaissance Force, 5th and 7th Fleet, Misawa, Japan as the operations officer.

In August the Golden Eagles of VP-9 were awarded the Navy’s Battle Efficiency award for their contributions to operations in the 5th and 7th Fleet during 2004. Vice Adm. James Zorman, commander, Naval Air Forces, Pacific Fleet, presented the award to Cmdr. Perry Yaw.

Patrol Squadron 47 also welcomed a new skipper in May, when VP-47’s executive officer, Cmdr. James W. Landers moved up to assume duties as commanding officer from Cmdr. Thomas F. McGovern.

Last year, in addition to their continuous training evolutions, some of the Golden Swordsmen used their off-duty time to help a local school. In August, VP-47 squadron members participated in a “Partnership with Schools” project with their recently established Adopt-A-School partner Kapunahala Elementary. According to

FLIGHT, From A-2

instructions can result in suspension of driving privileges for a minimum of one year, as well as disciplinary action.

In order to help mitigate the problem at hand, a runway-incursion working group was formed in order to come up with ways to inform people about the potential hazards driving, walking or running on the airfield can present and ultimately reduce the number of runway incursions.

Clark said he thinks that the main reason for unauthorized access by vehicles and people to the flight line is the fact that they are not aware of their environment.

“Especially over near the hangars, people get lost and just drive across, even though they can see they’re on a flight line,” said Clark. “It just doesn’t seem to kick in that they are in an unauthorized area.”

Additional barriers and signs will be placed in problem areas around the flight line to clear up any possible confusion people may have. Also, safety stand downs will now include a slide presentation that explains the risks and range of penalties for runway incursions.

“One of the big things is we want to put teeth into the base order,” said Clark. “Not only do we want to educate and raise awareness, we need to enforce the base regulation so that there is strict punishment for people who continue to drive on the flight line, unauthorized.”

time 5th Battalion, 14th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division, was deployed to a combat zone Franklin D. Roosevelt was president and the United States was in a world war against the Japanese in the Southern Pacific. They arrived in Fallujah in late September after more than 60 years of readiness. The full story is in the Nov. 4 issue.

The Branch Medical Clinic celebrated its 107th anniversary of the hospital corpsman rating at the Hyatt Regency Hotel with a celebration that brought back uniforms that represented their rich history. The guest speaker was Rear Adm. Thomas R. Cullison, Medical Officer of the Marine Corps.

Mid-year the clinic hospital corpsmen attended a retreat given University of Hawaii students, aboard MCB Hawaii. According to reports, graduate students from UH organized a retreat for the Navy hospital corpsmen, assigned to the clinic, who recently returned from Iraq where they were serving with the Battalion Landing Team, 1/3. The purpose of the retreat was to treat the returning corpsmen with stress-free activities that would offer them rest and relaxation.

Throughout the year, 21st Dental at K-Bay’s Branch Dental Clinic continued to support readership with the latest information about cutting down on cavities and tips for parents who are taking their children to the dentist for the first time as well as how to help children keep teeth for a lifetime.

Working and providing advise was not all the

dental technicians had done last year. In an attempt to keep physically fit, 21st Dental took a hike to Kansas Tower.

Perhaps the one event last year that left the dental technicians with mixed emotions was the celebration of their last Dental Technician Ball. Each year, for the past 57 years, dental technicians Navy-wide had celebrated the anniversary of their rating, established April 2, 1948. Last year, however, was the last year for their independent commemoration as the dental technician rating is merging with that of the Navy hospital corpsmen rating. The merger is an effort to maximize efficiency through healthcare support in both the medical and dental fields. Supposedly, with the dental

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Photo Courtesy of Patrol Squadron 4
Lt. j.g. Ryan Davis, Patrol Squadron 4, lends a helping hand to the children of an orphanage in Djibouti, Africa, March 2005. Several Sailors from VP-4 are volunteered at the facility, where they fed and played with children.



Lance Cpl. Roger L. Nelson

Sgt. Andrew Jones (left), instructor, Scout Sniper Basic Course, assists a student during the stalking portion of the 10-week-long training at Schofield Barracks, Oct. 13, 2005.



Lance Cpl. Edward C. deBree

Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael Todd checks Chief Petty Officer Chad Gurrero's condition during a Search and Rescue training exercise, Dec. 5, 2005, on Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

HAWAII, From A-6

technician rating merging with the hospital corpsman rating, will make dental technicians more of an asset because they will be interchangeable with hospital corpsmen, allowing them to serve in either occupation.

Even though the merge was forthcoming, 21st Dental went on to celebrate the Navy Dental Corps 93rd anniversary. According to the dental technicians, the Navy DTs began practicing in April 1873 when Dr. Thomas O. Walton served as the first acting assistant surgeon at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. However, it wasn't until Aug. 22, 1912, that President Taft formally authorized the Secretary of the Navy to appoint no more than 30 acting assistant dental surgeons to the Navy Medical Department.

Other interesting moments throughout the year included the announcement of MotoMail and the new medals that were created for OIF and OEF veterans. But there were also events that brought military and community together through the Make-A-Wish Foundation, DEFY, Relay for Life and blood drives.

Let us not forget that MCB Hawaii is also of historical importance to the native Hawaiians insomuch as portions of the base are opened each year for Makahiki ceremonies. Also of significance are the annual pilgrimages in December of the members of the Japan Religious Committee for World Federation who have come to K-Bay each year, since 1970, to pay their respects to those lost during World War II, from both sides of the battlefield. Aboard, the committee visits the site of the first Japanese pilot shot down during the Dec. 7, 1941 attack, Lt. Fusata Iida.

And finally, the heroics of K-Bay's Marines and Sailors shone through, not only in Iraq and Afghanistan, but right here at home. Last year K-Bay was witness to lifesaving efforts of both Marines and Sailors stationed aboard MCB Hawaii that saw one Marine who foiled a robbery; a Sailor who put out a truck fire and another who performed CPR on a visitor to K-Bay, saving his life; and still other Marines who are credited with jumping into rough waters to save drowning children.

If you are interested in reading the extended stories, articles and informational pieces, all are available at www.mcbh.usmc.mil. If you go to this Web site, you will see a link to Hawaii Marine. Click on that link, and it will take you to a menu where you can decide for yourself whether or not you want to read the current issue or go to the archives and review any of the stories featured in this article. Whatever the case, the staff of Hawaii Marine welcomes all readers and thanks all for your interest and support of the Marines and Sailors assigned to MCB Hawaii, K-Bay.



A Marine from 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, carries a 240G machine gun while on predeployment training at Marine Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif., in March 2005. The 240G is generally used as a base of fire to cover other Marines while they move closer to an objective. 2/3 Marines are currently redeploying to Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay from Afghanistan.

Sgt. Robert M. Storm